

¶106.21 TAIWAN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. SOLOMON moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 334):

Whereas good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to help guarantee this right;

Whereas direct and unobstructed participation in international health cooperation forums and programs is therefore crucial, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of various infectious diseases such as AIDS and Hong Kong bird flu through increased trade and travel;

Whereas the World Health Organization (WHO) set forth in the first chapter of its charter the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people;

Whereas in 1977 the World Health Organization established "Health for all by the year 2000" as its overriding priority and reaffirmed that central vision with the initiation of its "Health For All" renewal process in 1995;

Whereas Taiwan's population of 21,000,000 people is larger than that of ¾ of the member states already in the World Health Organization and shares the noble goals of the organization;

Whereas Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia, maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, and the plague, the first Asian nation to be rid of polio, and the first country in the world to provide children with free hepatitis B vaccinations;

Whereas prior to 1972 and its loss of membership in the World Health Organization, Taiwan sent specialists to serve in other member countries on countless health projects and its health experts held key positions in the organization, all to the benefit of the entire Pacific region;

Whereas Taiwan is not allowed to participate in any WHO-organized forums and workshops concerning the latest technologies in the diagnosis, monitoring, and control of diseases;

Whereas in recent years both the Taiwanese Government and individual Taiwanese experts have expressed a willingness to assist financially or technically in WHO-supported international aid and health activities, but have ultimately been unable to render such assistance;

Whereas according to the constitution of the World Health Organization, Taiwan does not fulfill the criteria for membership;

Whereas the World Health Organization does allow observers to participate in the activities of the organization; and

Whereas in light of all of the benefits that such participation could bring to the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) Taiwan and its 21,000,000 people should have appropriate and meaningful participation in the World Health Organization; and

(2) it should be United States policy to pursue some initiative in the World Health Organization which will give Taiwan meaningful participation in a manner that is consistent with such organization's requirements.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, recognized Mr. SOLOMON and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SOLOMON objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed until Saturday, October 10, 1998.

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶106.22 SUBMISSION OF CONFERENCE REPORT—S. 1260

Mr. BLILEY submitted a conference report (Rept. No. 105-803) on the bill of the Senate (S. 1260) to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to limit the conduct of securities class actions under State law, and for other purposes; together with a statement thereon, for printing in the Record under the rule.

¶106.23 FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2431. An Act to establish an Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, to provide for the imposition of sanctions against countries engaged in a pattern of religious persecution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3903. An Act to provide for an exchange of lands located near Gustavus, Alaska, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 417) "An Act to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 2002" with an amendment.

¶106.24 SUPPORTING THE BALTIC PEOPLE OF ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 320); as amended:

Whereas on February 16, 1918, February 24, 1918, and November 18, 1918, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, declared, respectively, their independence and became democratic, peace-loving states with membership in the League of Nations and diplomatic representation in the United States;

Whereas on August 23, 1939, emissaries of Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin, Nazi German Foreign Minister Ribbentrop and Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov, signed an agreement known as the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression which contained secret protocols that illegally divided Eastern Europe into spheres of influence with Estonia, Latvia, and part of Poland going to the Soviet Union and Lithuania and Poland going to Nazi Germany;

Whereas the Soviet Army fulfilled the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression by ille-

gally invading Lithuania on June 15, 1940, and invading both Latvia and Estonia on June 17, 1940;

Whereas this illegal and forcible occupation was never recognized by the United States and successive United States Administrations maintained continuous diplomatic relations with these countries throughout the Soviet period, never once considering them to be "Soviet Republics";

Whereas the Baltic peoples valiantly re-established their independence through peaceful means and the United States recognized their independent governments in 1991; and

Whereas Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia have achieved commendable success in the eight years since they re-established independence, including full democracy, significant economic reforms, and civilian control of a new military based on Western standards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, in observance of the 59th anniversary of the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression, the Congress—

(1) reaffirms the United States policy of the non-recognition of the occupation by the Soviet Union of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia subsequent to the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression, which for the 50 years after the signing of such Pact was a commendable bipartisan policy that refused to legally recognize the Soviet occupation of these countries;

(2) urges Russia, in the spirit of democracy, to renounce the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression and its secret supplemental protocols, as illegal;

(3) welcomes and supports the signing of the United States-Baltic Charter by the United States, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia that reiterates the strong historical kinship between the peoples of these countries; and

(4) calls on the President and Secretary of State to work to ensure that Russia understands that the Nazi-Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression should be considered illegal and null and void.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SOLOMON demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed until Saturday, October 10, 1998

¶106.25 SUSPENSION OF THE RULES NOTICE

Mr. GOODLING, pursuant to House Resolution 575, at 2:17 p.m. announced the Speaker would recognize Members for motions to suspend the rules under clause 2 of rule XXVII with respect to the following bill which may be considered today: (H.R. 4309) to provide a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture.